

GLM/CAJ:ah:kaa 05/11/05 369107.doc
PATENTAttorney Reference Number 6115-58351-01
Application Number 09/925,125**Remarks:**

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1-73 are pending in the application. No claims have been allowed. Claims 35, 38, and 70 have been canceled. New claims 74 and 75 have been added.

Restriction/Election Requirement

The Action concludes that the claims in the Application are directed to four distinct groups, and therefore requires restriction to one of the groups. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants provisionally elect Group I (claims 1-13, 16-34, 36-37, 39-69, and 71-73) for examination with traverse. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the unelected claims, in their original form, in a continuing application.

Regarding claims 14 and 15 (included in Group II), Applicants disagree with the restriction requirement. Claims 14 and 15 are dependent upon claim 1, and therefore can properly be examined with claim 1. At the very least, claims 14 and 15 should be examined if a generic claim (e.g., claim 1) is found to be allowable.

Claim 35 (included in Group II) has been canceled. Claim 74 has been added, and is essentially claim 35 rewritten as dependent upon claim 1. Claim 74 is dependent upon claim 1, and therefore can properly be examined with claim 1. At the very least, claim 74 should be examined if a generic claim (e.g., claim 1) is found to be allowable.

Claim 38 (Group III) has been canceled. Claim 75 has been added, and is essentially claim 38 rewritten as dependent upon claim 36. Claim 75 is dependent upon claim 36, and therefore can properly be examined with claim 36. At the very least, claim 75 should be examined if a generic claim (e.g., claim 36) is found to be allowable.

Claim 70 (Group IV) has been canceled.

Request For Interview

If any issues remain, the Examiner is formally requested to contact the undersigned attorney prior to issuance of the next Office Action in order to arrange a telephonic interview. It is believed that a brief discussion of the merits of the present application may expedite

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prosecution. Applicants submit the foregoing formal Amendment so that the Examiner may fully evaluate Applicants' position, thereby enabling the interview to be more focused.

This request is being submitted under MPEP § 713.01, which indicates that an interview may be arranged in advance by a written request.

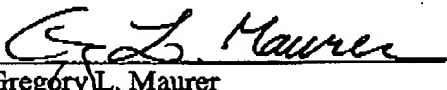
Conclusion

The claims in their present form should now be allowable. Such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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